THE TRUE NARRATIVE OF THE PROCEDINGS AT THE ASSIZES Holden for the County of Surry:

Which began on *Fryday* the 12th of this inſtant *March* 1679. and ended on the *Wedneſday* following, where a great number of Malefactors were Tried; the moſt remarkable of which I ſhall give the Reader an impartial Account.

Printed, 17. *March*, 1679.

Viz. Tone Phillips, *James Chriſtian*, for Murder, *John Seamor*, *John Selly*, *Richard Smith*, all three notorious Highway-Men. *William Phips*, and *William Watſon*, for Horſe-ſtealling, and *Margaret Clark*, for ſetting her Maſters houſe on Fire in *Southwark*, being eight in number, which received Sentance of Death. Eeight burned in the hand, three to be whipt, and two to be Tranſported. And ſo this great Aſſize ended.

THE firſt notorious Offender that received her Tryal was *Rebeccah Serjeant*, againſt whom three ſeveral Bills of Indictments were preferred, all of them for her Stealing Gold Rings, the firſt Indictment was, for that ſhe the Priſoner coming into the Shop of *Jeremiah Pipit* living in *St. Mary Magdalins Bermondſy*, and there pretending to cheapen ſeveral Rings, convey'd the two ſpecified in the Indictment, and valued at 15 *s.* into her Boſom, and ſo departed undiſcovered. The next was for Stealing a Ring in the ſame manner from *Richard Gunter*, living in St. *Olaves Southwark* valued 9 *s.* pretending there that her Mother ſent her to cheapen a Ring. The Third and laſt was for Stealing a Ring from *James Gunter* of the ſaid Pariſh: but being apprehended, ſhe fairly confeſſed the ſeveral Fellonies, as likewiſe upon her Tryal.

William Phips was Arraigned, and Tried for ſtealing a Gelding, vallued at five pounds out of the Grounds of *Henry Laden*, at *Long Ditton in the County of Surry*, the 20th of *September* paſt, being taken upon the back of the ſaid Gelding in *Kingſton*, he pretended, he bought him, but could produce no Witneſs to confirm it, therefore was found Guilty of the Fellony.

John Watſon alias *Knight*, was Arraigned and found Guilty, for ſtealing a Tankard and a Riding-hood from *Elizabeth Griffin* in the Pariſh of *Redriff*.

Roger Palmer, a Bargemans Servant was Tryed for Robbing a Gentleman of his Mare, valued at fifty *li.* he pleaded in Court that he bought her in *Smithfield*, but being not able to prove the ſame, and a notorious Offender he was found Guilty of the Fellonious Stealing of the ſaid Mare.

The next were *Margaret Clark* and *John Satterthwait*, for that notorious Crime of Firing Mr. *Delaney's* House, in *Montague* Close in *Southwark*, on the first of *January* last, Circumstances whereof were thus, that a Neighbour of Mr. *Delaneys* on the first of *January* aforesaid, smelling a strong scent of Fire, was much surprised, and thereupon began to search about his own House, but not finding any there, imagined that it must needs be at Mr. *Delawnies*, being the more suspicious place, by reason he could discerne a Smoke issuing out from between the Boards, and that all the Family except the aforesaid *Margaret Clark* and one of the Apprentices, were in the Country; the said *Delaney* being a Dyer. Whereupon he went and knocked at the Door, calling to the aforesaid *Margaret Clark*, who was a long time before she would Answer but when she did, seemed loath to let him in; but did at last; who entering, told her there was a Fire in the House, at which, in great Amazement, she made strange of; but he persisting, after much search, found it in a Buttery, where the Flames had reached the Seiling, and asking her for the Apprentice, she told him he was in Bed, whereupon he running up Stairs, pulled him out, surprized with the Event, and both of them after some time, quenched the raging Element, the which no sooner done, but another Fire began in the Dyhouse, far distant from the former, that being quenched, another began in the Garret, upon which they suspecting some Treachery, questioned the said *Margaret Clark*; who for a while faintly denied that she knew any thing of the Contrivance; but being hard prest, confessed that three Gentlemen getting her to an Alehouse hard by and proffered her a Reward of two thousand pounds, if she would Fire her Masters House, or let them in to do it in a convenient time, and that after it was done, she should come to the *Fleece Tavern* in *Holbourn*, and there ask for the Number 9. and by that find them, and receive her monies, and in order thereunto she had let the now Prisoner Mr. *Satterthwait* in, and that he did effect what was done, and further, that she understood by them that they were Papists, this Confession she likewise confirmed upon her Trial, and *Satterthwait* being taken upon suspicion for the hiring her, he being by her described, and found drinking at the *Bear-Tavern*, was carried before the Justice, where she was, who no sooner seeing him, but charged him to be the same that had hired her; but in Court several Gentlemen and others, attesting where he was that day, and all the time she charged him to be there, whereupon he was acquitted, but she was found Guilty of the notorious Fellony.

John Battelph and *William Savory*, were Indicted, and Arraigned for Robing a Vessel upon the River of Thames, for that they in the Company of four more, all Armed, and with Black Caps pulled over their Faces only peepholes left, did come Aboard the said Vessel lying about *Limehouse*, in the River of Thames, and binding one *Harrison*, who lay aboard, and conveyed thence in a Boat brought by them, one Bail of Spanish Cloth, four pieces of Hair Cambler, ten grose of Silk-buttons, one dosen of Silk-hoods, fifty pair of Silk Stockins, several pair of Shoos, Fring Gloves, and Ribbons, in all to the value of two hundred pounds, leaving the said *Harris* bound; between one and two in the morning they brought a Boat with them to carry off the Goods, one *Fairy* being Master of the Vessel, who they swore desperately they would have killed, had they found him on board. Upon search for these Goods, and a great suspicion both the Prisoners were apprehended, and upon search of *Savories*, house several of them were found, as likewise 6 Pistols, 6 Swords and 3 Black Caps; *Savories* Wife Confessing that *Battalph* brought them thither, under the notion of uncustomed Goods, in the name of one Mr. *Mannering* a Marchant, desiring her to secure them, and the next day they should be sent for. All this was sworn in Court, and her Examination produced, yet by reason she was fled, and not to be found, the jury for want of Evidence, brought them in not Guilty.

The

The next were three notorious High way men, *viz. John Seymour* alias *Herris*, *John Selby*, *Richard Smith* who were no lefs than 5 times Indicted for Robbing on the High way, first for robbing *Christopher Hunt* of 7 pound of Womens Linning valued at forty pounds, upon *Bagshot Heath*, the fifteenth of *January*, a second for Robbing *Roger Pipe* of his Sword, seven pounds in monies, near *Egham*, as likewise the Parson of *Echam*, taking from him a Watch, and monies to a conderable vallue, the next for Robbing Mr. *Addison* a Butcher of five or six pounds, they had been notorious villains, *Herris* especially, and had taken the name of *Seymour* to prevent being Robbed *Esquire Seymour*, the Speaker of the Parliament House, *Captain Richardson* did appear against them, and did affert that they had been in twenty Robberies, and a fellow gave Evidence against them, that had been their Companion in Several, they were taken upon suspicion of Fellony, and carried to *Kingston Goal*, where when these Indictments came against them they were brought to this Assize, the evidence was all so plain and positive, that the jury found them Guilty of the Several Fellonies and Robberies, nor could they well deny them themselves, and so received Sentance of Death.

William Watson, was indicted and took his Tryal together with *William Cottern* for stealing a Gelding from Squire *Curtis* in the Parish of *Morden*, valued at five pounds, it was proved against them, that they were taken with the Horse in their possession upon the Road, designed for *London*, but the latter upon examination did affirm that he overtook the former upon the Road, desiring him to let him ride behinde him, who refusing to grant his request, told him if he would accompany him he would ride softly by, so that they had not been Associates long, ere they were both apprehended and committed to the Goal, and likewise *Watson* confessing he was no ways concerned in the Robbery, the jury aquitted him, but *Watson* being found Guilty of the Fellony, received Sentance of Death.

Joan Philips of the Parish of St. *Georges Southwark* was Indicted, for that she with an Awl about 2 Inches long, did Murther *James Philips* her Son, a Child about 9 weeks old, the Circumstances were as followeth; She having as it is credibly reported, a very cruel man to her Husband, who not only abused her, but kept her from such necessaryes as were requisite Women, which made her grow weary and desperate, not caring to prolong her Life, so that thinking the Murther of her Child would be the only means to put a period to her own: She with the aforesaid Awl in her Husbands absence run it into the Throat, and leaving the Awl sticking there, went out of Doors, but one of the Neighbours hearing the Child cry after an unusual manner, went to see what the matter was, and when she came found it lying in the Cradle in the posture before recited, whereat being affrighted she went and called some other Neighbours in, and whilst they are dressing the Child, the Prisoner came back again, having been as far as St. *Pauls London*, but as she said, her Conscience misgiving her returned, and being demanded why she acted such an unnatural Cruelty, she said that now her Grief was at an end and she did it that she might likewise dye: But upon Examination in Court she made a faint excuse, saying the Awl was in the Cradle and so run into the Child, but that being false by her former Confession, she was found Guilty of wilful Murther.

James

James Christian was Arraigned and Tryed for Killing *Robert Bury* a Water-man in the Parish of *Redriff*, the 21 of *June*; the said *James Christian* having a former grudg again the Deceased for taking a Fare out of his Boat, had often threatned, and once mob'd grievously beaten him, but watching his Opportunity one Night when the said *Bury* reached some Goods in his Boat, the Prisoner came, and as it is supposed found him asleep, whereupon with a Staff he struck him over the head and waked him, upon which some words passed between them, so that the Prisoner taking up the Hook or Grecher of the Boat, gave him several Mortal Wounds on the head with the same, of which the said *Bury* dyed in the space of 7 or 8 Weeks, affirming to the last that the Prisoner had been the cause of his Death. Whereupon the Jury after some Consult brought in *Christian* aboresaid, Guilty of wilful Murther.

Francis Harwood, a notorious Offender was arraigned and tryed for breaking open the House of *Th. Stanis* in the Parish of St. *George Southwark*, and Feloniously beating thence one Searge Petticoat with Silver Lace, one Scarf, one Cloth Coat, and several other Goods to the value of 20 *l.* himself confessing, That he knew where the Goods were, and that for 20 shillings he would help him to them again, but denied that he either broke the House or Stole them, but having been burnt in the hand before at *Ailsbury*, he was only found Guilty of the Felony.

William Smith, and *John Smith* took their Tryals for Stealing 7 Cows, the Goods and Chattels of *Tho. Bret* of *Kingston* upon *Thames*, they being taken driving the Cows towards *London*, but upon examination it seems one of them did not. *William* affirmed that he accidentally coming along the Road and overtaking the other driving of them bought them of him, who affirmed that he found them in the Forest, so that *John Smith* was found Guilty of the Felony and the other acquitted.

Tho. Goff, a Rower in a Bumboat was tryed for Stealing several Cables and Hafters from on Board a Vessel lying in *Redriff road* upon the *Thames*, making the Boy that watched aboard first drunk which being proved plainly against him, he was found Guilty of Felony.

Edward Bailey was Indicted and Arraigned for Felony and Burglary, for that he about two of the Clock in the [illegible] of *Jan.* did Feloniously break and enter the Shop of *Richard* [illegible] and taking thence [illegible] to the value of 20 a considerable value, but being pursued he ran into a house of Office standing over the *Thames* and endeavoured to throw it down into the same, the Fellony being plain the Jury found that, but could not find the Burglary by reason there was no proof of that.

FINIS